

Lawn Repair

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If you are keen on your lawn, at some stage you are going to have to repair it. The damage might be caused by over use in one small area such as the bottom of a slide or in front of a bench, or you may have a bold patch left from the removal of weeds. Weed grasses such as

Yorkshire fog are common culprits -they can often be seen as areas of coarse bladed grass of a lighter colour than the grass surrounding it.

Easy Lawn Repair

However your grass has become damaged, a system called a "Lawn Mat" can help you repair the problem in double quick time. It is a simple idea of incorporating grass seed into a biodegradable mat, which you simply cut to the shape you require. The repair mat system has two main advantages over the traditional way of sowing seed to repair a lawn. Firstly the seed in the mat, once laid, is kept evenly moist for longer periods of time, which in turn creates a more even germination. Secondly because the seed is impregnated into the mat it is not eaten by birds, so not as much seed needs to be used as with traditional hand-sowing methods.

In addition, if the lawn repair mat is used in autumn, because the seed is impregnated into the mat at the correct spacing "Damping Off" disease is less likely to occur.



Lawn Repair kit

You will need

- Lawn repair mat
- Scissors
- Rake
- Bucket
- Watering can with fine rose

How to use a Lawn Mat

Ideally lawn repairs with the lawn repair mat should take place in the autumn and spring.

The job

- Step 1. Remove damaged turf
- Step 2. Fork over and even out
- Step 3. Remove 10mm of soil and any stones
- Step 4. Cut lawn mat to fit area
- Step 5. Replace soil
- Step 6. Water carefully



Step 1. Remove damaged turf

Step 1. First remove the damaged area of turf.

Step 2. Next lightly fork over the area with a garden fork to a depth of 25mm. If you come across any perennial weeds with taproots such as dandelion they should be dug out removing as much of the root as possible.



Step 2. Fork over and even out

With the area forked over, work the soil and break up the lumps and clods into a fine tilth with the back of your fork. (If your lawn is on a clay soil it is worth adding a few handfuls of sharp or grit sand to help break up the clay soil)

Step 3. Remove about 10-mm of soil from the forked area into a bucket, removing any stones over 25-mm.



Step 3. Remove 10mm of soil and any stones



Step 4. Cut lawn mat to fit area

Step 4. Cut the lawn repair mat to fit into the area you are working on, level the soil & place the mat on top and cover with the soil from the bucket.

Step 5. As you replace the soil lightly firm the soil back into position with your foot until the soil is about 3-mm above the existing lawn level.



Step 5. Replace soil

Step 6. Finally water the area with a watering can with a fine rose. If the area is dry, it is best to water the area and then return after 15 minutes to water the area again.



Step 6. Water carefully

Results & Aftercare

Depending on the temperature the first signs of germination should be seen within 14 days. This will appear as light wispy green shoots.



Re-growth after 9 days

After about 30 days the area should be ready for its first cut. This should be a light cut with a sharp pair of garden shears, and should remove no more than 1 third of the grass seedlings new growth.



Re-growth after 21 days

Once cut the grass plants should produce additional shoots from the base and the repaired area will start to thicken up.

You can feed the lawn as normal, however if you are intending to use selective weed killers you should avoid the repaired area for 14 weeks as the new grass needs time to establish before it can be treated with weed killer.

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